From: NC Insider
To: Kelli Brown
Subject: NC Insider for Dec. 17, 2025
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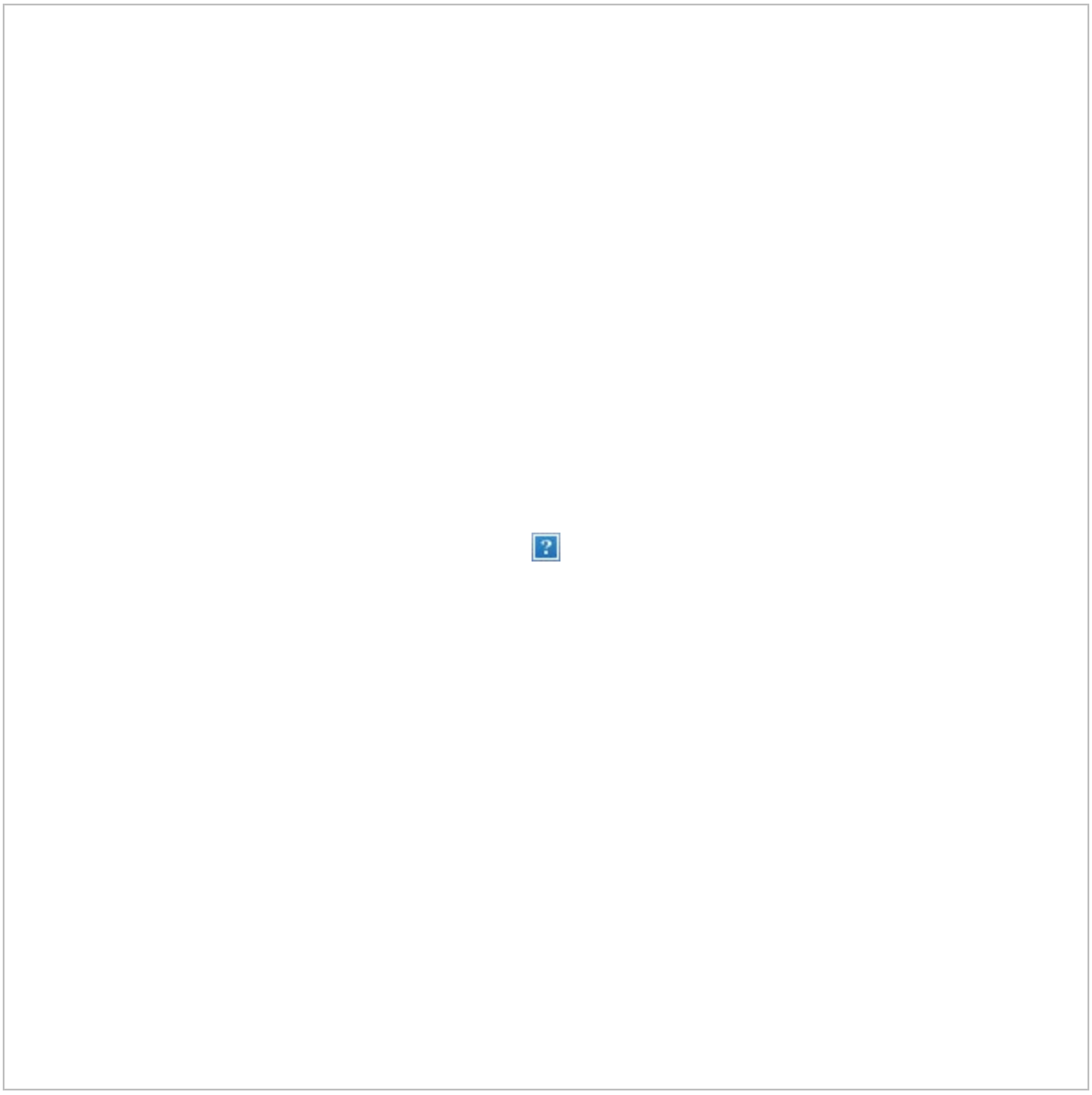

Legislative Building

YOU DON'T SAY

"It's going to be good for the state of North Carolina."

IN TODAY'S INSIDER

Health Plan Deficit

When new state treasurer Brad Briner walked into his new office at the beginning of 2025, he had a problem. After almost a decade of no premium increases for 750,000 state employees and their dependents, outgoing treasurer Dale Folwell

had left the State Health Plan — one of the programs embedded in the treasurer's office — with a deficit...

Early Voting: Disagreements have always existed over early voting sites in North Carolina, no matter who is in power...

Lumbee Recognition: North Carolina's Lumbee Tribe is the closest it has ever been to receiving full federal recognition now that a bill — which President Donald Trump has promised to sign — is on the verge of passing Congress and heading to Trump's desk...

Cary Audit: Staff from the State Auditor's Office visited Cary Town Hall five days after then-Town Manager Sean Stegall was put on paid, administrative leave, the mayor said Tuesday...

Congressional Trading: As members of Congress debate whether to ban stock trading, Roy Cooper, the former governor of North Carolina and a Senate candidate, announced his support for a ban...

Helene Repairs: North Carolina is now accepting applications to repair and rebuild small rental properties that were damaged or destroyed by Tropical Storm Helene...

Walker Nomination: U.S. Sen. Thom Tillis said Tuesday he believes that the Senate needs to move on from the nomination of former U.S. Rep. Mark Walker for ambassador-at-large for international religious freedom...

Film Incentives: State records obtained this month by The News & Observer detail how North Carolina specifically updated its film incentive guidelines to bring Beast Games to MrBeast's home state...

Meredith Concerns: Just months after announcing it was laying off 6% of its total employees this summer, Meredith College removed all of its academic deans from their positions leading the college's four schools...

County Fraud: Pender County has been the victim of financial fraud totaling over half a million dollars, the county announced...

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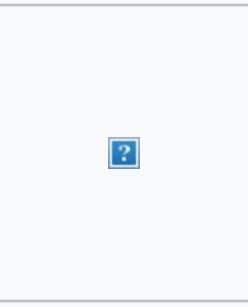
Chatbot risks prompt expansion of Kids Code bills

(*State Affairs National*) The coalition behind a multi-year push for state Kids Code laws to protect youth online is expanding its model bill for 2026 to include chatbot protections, as concern grows that they are not safe for young people. It's the latest signal that regulating human-like artificial intelligence chatbots will be a top issue when state lawmakers across the country reconvene in January...



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